

PRESS BOOK for *The Killing Kind*

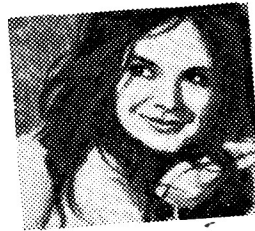


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ALL DEAD!



The Killing Kind

PUBLIC NOTICE: You read about Mass Murderers every day. Now you will learn how to identify them.

R RESTRICTED Under 17 requires accompanying Parent or Adult Guardian

A MEDIA TREND-GEORGE EDWARDS Production Starring

ANN SOTHERN · JOHN SAVAGE and RUTH ROMAN as Rhea Benson
CO-STARRING
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER LUANA ANDERS · CINDY WILLIAMS · SUE BERNARD · TONY CRECHALES and GEORGE EDWARDS · TONY CRECHALES
PRODUCED BY
DIRECTED BY LEON MIRELL · GEORGE EDWARDS · CURTIS HARRINGTON · ASSOCIATE PRODUCER SAL GRASSO · COLOR · A MEDIA CINEMA RELEASE

MAT 400 - 4 COL. X 125 LINES

SYNOPSIS

(Not For Publication)

Young Terry Lambert (John Savage) returns home unannounced after spending two years in prison on a rape charge. He was sentenced on the testimony of Tina Moore (Sue Bernard) along with four other boys, although he is innocent of the act. Due to a deep-seated psychosis, Terry is incapable of having sexual relations, but fantasizes with 'girlie' type magazines instead. His mother, Thelma Lambert (Ann Sothern), plumpish but still pretty, is surprised when Terry appears at the door, and bursts into tears of joy upon seeing him. Thelma has been left a large Victorian house by an admirer which she has turned into a rooming home for elderly ladies; and this is how she has supported herself and her son over the years. Thelma allows herself a few pleasures such as eating popcorn by the can, watching old movies on TV, and collecting stray cats which are constantly in attendance, but her main purpose in life is her devotion to Terry. Shortly after his return Thelma lifts her own ruling by renting a small room in the rear to Lori Davis (Cindy Williams), a young girl who has come to Hollywood from Tuscon to be a model. Meanwhile, Terry has made plans to even the score with Tina who he follows in a wild chase sequence which culminates in her driving her car over a cliff which bursts into flames.

Some days later Terry pays a late call on his lawyer Rhea Bensen (Ruth Roman), whom he feels has done him an injustice by not getting him off free. At knife point he forces her to drink an entire bottle of liquor, and then leaving her passed out on the floor, douses the room with lighter fluid and tosses in a flaming

pillow before he exits. Thelma is becoming suspicious of Terry's involvement in the deaths by this time, and she accuses him of it which he vehemently denies. Anxious *not* to believe his implication, she quickly accepts his denial, kisses him, and says she knew he couldn't do such a horrible thing. One night Lori comes home and finds Terry fixing her shower. She provokes him into kissing her — "I've never done it in a bath tub before," she says. In his mind's eye Terry has quick flashes of the rape, and he grabs Lori and begins to kiss her fiercely. When she cries out, "You're crazy!" he shoves her down in the tub, rips her blouse, and then in a sudden frenzy strangles her. In the morning Thelma finds Terry still in Lori's bathroom in a catatonic stage. They stay together in the room until it is dark, then Thelma sends Terry for a U-haul trailer, and they put Lori's body in a garbage can, drive it to the dump and throw it over a cliff. It is beginning to rain as they arrive back at the house. In the kitchen Thelma mixes Terry his favorite drink, a glass of chocolate milk, and she says to herself, "He has about as much chance as a snowball in hell!" Then she puts in a large dose of a deadly poison for she realizes there is no hope for him.

Dead now, she holds Terry's head in her arms and hums "Rock-a-bye-baby," and in the distance we hear the sound of police siren on the way to the Lambert house; the call placed by a next-door-neighbor, Spinner-ish Louise (Luana Anders), who has been sexually rejected by Terry, and spying on their activities, has her own final revenge.

FACTS

With the exception of some exterior shots "The Killing Kind" was filmed in an actual old Victorian mansion in the Larchmont area of Los Angeles belonging to a Dr. and his wife and children who lived there during the entire shooting schedule.

The rental of the house, and the problems involved, were beyond the original conception, but one can see in the final film how very well this location works for the film.

An amusing incident revolves around the fact that the non-English speaking Spanish maid was constantly being displaced from her small room in the rear of the house in order to shoot scenes there — and eventually she gave up and went back to her own country.

The burtal choking scene wherein the boy kills the girl in the bathtub was shot in the bathroom of the maid's room; and she was astounded to hear the screams coming from this area.

For the "rat Scene" the animals were provided by Moe diSesso, the same trainer who worked on "Willard and "Ben." For one shot where she is a body in a garbage can actress Cindy Williams had to lay on the ground and let the rat actually run over her face — she was not delighted with this to say the least!

All of the cats that appear in the film and perform so admirably are all trained movie cats — but the "meows" were put in at a later date. For the scene where the white cat (Penny) is supposed to be strangled and hangs limp, one of the town's top vets (Dr. Friedman was called in to administer the cat a sedative and it was no way painful to the animal.

The mynah bird used in the film is one that belongs to Bart and Flo's Pet Shop on Melrose in Hollywood

— and the dialogue it says in the film "Are You a Good Boy?" "Hi Doll" "Meow," and a British laugh are the real thing! The bird is called "Blackie," and that's the name used in the film.

Ann Sothern who danced and sang in a dozen or more Metro musicals, taught John Savage how to "jitterbug" and to "truck" for an amusing dance sequence in the film — 22 year old John is too young to remember those dances.

It was mind over matter when John Savage was required to go into the icy (and it was) swimming pool for important night scenes in the picture — the rest of the cast and crew were swathed in heavy coats and mufflers. John said it was all a matter of concentration and that he didn't seem to notice the cold — nor does it show on the screen!

This will make the sixth motion picture for the producing/directing team of George Edwards (producer) and director Curtis Harrington — others include:

"Queen of Blood"
"Journey to the Red Planet"
"Games"
"How Awful About Allan"
"What's the Matter with Helen?"

That's a real white dead cat that Miss Sothern finds in the garbage can — one put to sleep by the SPCA and utilized by the film company.

Peter Brocco (the father) had to learn how to operate a wheel chair and wear a hearing aid for his role in the film.

In the film John Savage can neither sing nor play the guitar — in real life he has been a professional singer, plays beautifully, and has written songs.

THE CAST

Thelma Lambert	ANN SOTHERN
Terry Lambert	JOHN SAVAGE
Rhea Benson	RUTH ROMAN
Louise	LUANA ANDERS
Lori	CINDY WILLIAMS
Tina	SUE BERNARD
Mrs. Orland	MARJORIE EATON
Father	PETER BROCCO
FLO	HELENE WINSTON

PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Manager	SAL GRASSO
Assistant Director	JACK ROBINETTE
Film Editor	BRYON CROUCH
Set Decorator	JOHN FRANCE JR.
Costumes By	TOM RASMUSSEN
Hairstylist	JINX LAMBO

Miss Sothern's Hairstyles	CARRIE WHITE
Makeup	JOE McKINNEY
Sound Recordists	GEORGE MALY, VAINE WILLIAMS
Gaffer	PETER SAXBY
Camera Assistants	JOHN FLECKENSTEIN, PEKKA KAUPPI
Music Editor	DON ERNST
Sound Effects	EDIT INTERNATIONAL LTD.
Script Supervisor	PEG ROBERT SMITH
Production Assistant	LEA BERKELEY
Key Grip	KURT YOUNG
2nd Unit Cameramen	GRAVER, PETER SAXBY
Property Master	JOHN GUDAT
Casting	CARO JONES
Titles and Opticals	MODERN FILM EFFECTS
Prints by	MOVIELAB
Furnishings by	LEVITZ

PUBLICITY

ANN SOTHERN

Because of her starring roles in so many MGM Musicals and the "Masie" films also made at MGM, and the two top comedy series "Private Secretary" and the "Ann Sothern Show," people are apt to forget that Miss Sothern is also one of the most capable dramatic actresses around and to prove it she runs the gamut of emotions from comedy to stark tragedy in the new motion picture "The Killing Kind." Miss Sothern plays 'Thelma Lambert,' the mother of a psychopathic son who runs a boarding home for elderly ladies, and the stunning suspense thriller eventually leads to murder and one of the most unusual endings in film history.

A legendary beauty, for the mother role Miss Sothern allowed herself to be photographed without benefit of special lighting, and rather than the usual parade of glamorous Hollywood clothes her entire wardrobe in the film consists of "mumus," negligees, and house coats, as she insisted on complete authenticity for her characterization.

For her role in the film Ann Sothern was required to eat popcorn and drink Dr. Pepper constantly (as part of the character) — neither of which items she wants to see again after the many takes and quantities she had to consume.

The "old ladies" in the film — playing tenants of Thelma Lambert's guest home — were actually tenants of the Hollywood Royal Guest Home in Hollywood, and they were thrilled to be playing roles in a motion picture — even the day during the filming of the "dream sequence" under the Old Venice pier when the tide came in and all were sent running.

In the film Ann Sothern is also an ex-photographer in a nightclub — in real life she is a superb cameraman, has won awards, and has an extensive collection of very expensive camera equipment.

Actress Cindy Williams was required to spend two days in the bathtub soaking wet for the strangulation scene in the picture — and as a corpse being dumped into a garbage can. Fortunately for her a standin was used as the body in the can that is dumped over a cliff — and this standin had to spend eight hours inside the garbage can for shooting scenes at Bradley's Dump in Sun Valley.

The laundromat was an actual location on Beverly Boulevard and the cast and crew had an added treat when they brought in their dirty linen and it was laundered during the filming of these scenes!

John Savage had to consume gallons of chocolate milk in the picture — and if it is a popular success will undoubtedly start a whole new trend toward drinking milk mixed with chocolate.

Little did the bathers at Venice Beach know that a "rape" scene was being shot just a little ways up from where they were lying in the sun. The girl, Sue Bernard, is a former Playboy Mag Playmate of the Month — and the event was being covered by Playboy magazine for yet another spread on the gorgeous red-headed Miss Bernard who plays the ill-fated Tina Moore in the motion picture.

Cindy Williams, who plays Lori Davis in the picture, alternated between scenes for her role in the Francis Ford Coppola film "The Conversation" in which she co-stars with Gene Hackman, and the "The Killing Kind" — "The Conversation" was being filmed in Frisco!

CURTIS HARRINGTON

(Director)

Curtis Harrington was the executive assistant to the late Jerry Wald at 20th Century-Fox for seven years, wrote several screenplays (including "Mardi Gras" for Pat Boone), and functioned as associate producer on a dozen Wald films, and completed the Joanne Woodward starrer "The Stripper." Following this he wrote and directed "Night Tide," starring Dennis Hopper; and "Queen of Blood" starring John Saxon, Dennis Hopper, and Basil Rathbone, a low-budget science fiction film for American-International that received glowing reviews from the critics, and which led to a long term contract at Universal Studios. His first film for Universal (on which he also co-authored the original story) was "Games," a suspense thriller starring the Oscar-winning Simone Sig-

noret, and two newcomers who were catapulted to stardom — James Caan, and Katherine Ross. The film received plaudits from film critics around the world, and is now considered a classic in this genre. Other film directing credits include "What's The Matter with Helen?" starring Shelley Winters, Debbie Reynolds, and Dennis Weaver; and "Who Slew Auntie Roo?" starring Shelley Winters and Sir Ralph Richardson filmed in England. In television Curtis Harrington directed "How Awful About Allan!" starring Tony Perkins and Julie Harris for the ABC-TV Movie of the Week, which received one of their highest ratings; and segments of the Jesse James" TV series starring Chris Jones and guest star Sally Kellerman. In addition to this, he has written and directed a number of Award-winning experimental films that are constantly seen around the world.

RUTH ROMAN

Ruth Roman, a stellar performer known for her starring roles in a score of motion pictures, plays the role of a lady attorney ("Rhea Benson") in the new suspense thriller "The Killing Kind." Even though her role was not the largest part in the script, Miss Roman was so entranced with this unusual vehicle that she signed to play the role at once, and her scenes with young male lead, John Savage, provide some of the most suspenseful and exciting in the motion picture. One sequence requires Miss Roman to be forced to consume an entire bottle of liquor (water colored with tea), and it was quite a feat when the director called for the scene to be shot over and over again to achieve the final perfection. A born trouper, Miss Roman made no complaint when her scenes shot until five o'clock in the morning for several nights in a row, and Ruth Roman fans everywhere will be delighted to see her in this devastating performance.

JOHN SAVAGE

Both the producer and director of "The Killing Kind" are delighted that the original casting for the role of the son "Terry" dropped out at the last moment and they were forced to find a replacement just a day before the start of shooting, for if this had not been the case they wouldn't have been fortunate to have signed this brilliant young actor (22) for the role. John came to Hollywood after several off-Broadway shows and the musical production on Broadway of "Exodus." Other screen roles include "Bad Company" and "Steelyard Blues" with Jane Fonda and Donald Sutherland, for which he was selected over 100 juvenile aspirants. In the film "The Killing Kind" young Savage has a tour-de-force role as "Terry Lambert" accused of a crime he didn't commit, and which leads to further complications and bloodshed. It is probably the most demanding role for a young actor since Tony Perkins in "Psycho," as he appears in every scene.

GEORGE EDWARDS

(Producer)

George Edwards left MGM after a number of years to produce the West Coast production of Tennessee Williams' "Suddenly Last Summer," which received some of the best notices from critics in LA theatre history. In addition to this he produced Nikos Kazantzakis' "Sodom and Gomorrah" for the UCLA Professional Theatre Group with an all-star cast; and Ben Hecht's "Winkelberg" at the Stage Society with Robert Ellenstein, Mariette Hartley, Stuart Margolin, and Jenny Hecht in the cast. Later he joined forces with the director Curtis Harrington to produce "Queen of Blood" for American-International, a science-fiction thriller starring Dennis Hopper and John Saxon; and then "Journey to the Red Planet" with Basil Rathbone. Edwards next produced "The Nightcrawlers" (Bobby Van/Mamie Van Doren) and "Prehistoric Planet" with Wendell Corey. It was "Planet of Blood" that won Harrington and Edwards a long term contract with Universal Studios, and their first film was "Games," for which they also wrote the original story. It starred Simone Signoret, Katherine Ross, and James Caan, and which received excellent

notices from critics around the world. Harrington and Edwards have also been associated on an ABC-TV Movie of the Week, "How Awful About Allan," starring Tony Perkins, Julie Harris, and Joan Hackett, which was chosen to open the fall season, and received one of the highest ratings.

Next they paired for the Filmways/UA feature "What's The Matter with Helen?" starring Debbie Reynolds, Shelley Winters, and Dennis Weaver, an exciting suspense story by Henry Farrell ("Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?") utilizing Hollywood in the 30's as the background. Currently in release for Edwards is the exciting thriller with an ecology background, "Frogs," for AIP starring Ray Milland; and "The Draft Dodger," which marks a radical departure for the producer who is known best for his unusual suspense thrillers. "The Draft Dodger" deals with the topical subject of *Amnesty*, and stars newcomers Darrell Larson, Heather Menzies, and Dennis Oliveri. Both Miss Menzies and Oliveri won starring roles in major films at Universal as the result of their performances. In addition to producing "The Killing Kind" as a Media Trend/George Edwards Production, Edwards co-authored the screenplay with Tony Crechales.



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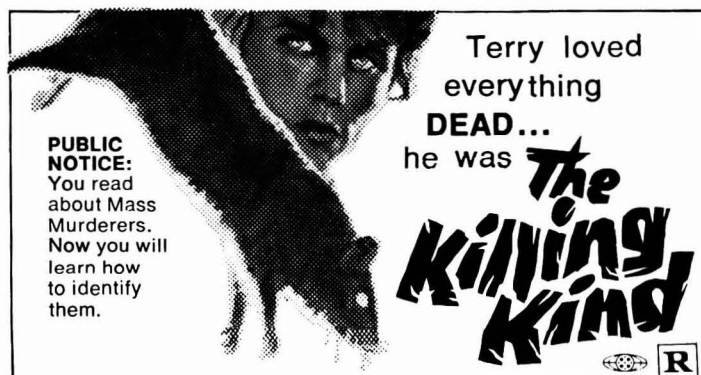
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SCREENPLAY BY
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER PRODUCED BY DIRECTED BY ASSOCIATE PRODUCER
LEON MIRELL · GEORGE EDWARDS · CURTIS HARRINGTON · SAL GRASSO · COLOR · A MEDIA CINEMA RELEASE

MAT 300 - 3 COL. X 120 LINES



Terry loved everything
DEAD...
he was **The
Killing Kind** **R**

MAT 200 - 2 COL. X 14 LINES



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MAT 201 - 2 COL. X 28 LINES

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TONY CRECHALES · LEON MIRELL · GEORGE EDWARDS · CURTIS HARRINGTON · SAL GRASSO
COLOR · A MEDIA CINEMA RELEASE

MAT 203 - 2 COL. X 85 LINES

Terry
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**The
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A MEDIA CINEMA RELEASE **R**

MAT 101 - 1 COL. X 56 LINES

Learn to identify...
**The
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R

MAT 100 - 1 COL. X 14 LINES

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MAT 204 - 2 COL. X 125 LINES

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